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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,800	03/30/2004	Nobuya Watabe	01-606	2828
23400	7590	10/03/2005	EXAMINER	
POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC 12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE SUITE 101 RESTON, VA 20191			LABBEES, EDNY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2632	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/811,800

Applicant(s)

WATABE, NOBUYA

Examiner

Edny Labbees

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/30/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starkey et al. (US 6,518,877) in view of Meyer et al. (US 5,880,363).

Regarding Claim 1, Starkey discloses *Pneumatic Tire Monitor* that has the following claim limitations:

Claimed plurality of detectors incorporated in a plurality of tires is met by plurality of tire condition monitors (157a-157d) mounted on plurality of pneumatic tires (104a-104d) (see Col. 11 Ins 53-59); claimed plurality of receiver means for receiving tire data signals transmitted from the detectors is met by plurality of antennas (160a-160d) mounted on the vehicle (152) in close proximity to the tire condition monitors (157a-157d) (see Col. 12 Ins 13-16) claimed monitoring means for monitoring the pneumatic pressure is met by a display device (162) (see Fig. 1A); claimed single communication line connecting the plurality of receiver means and monitoring means is met by a multiplexed serial data bus (unlabeled) where the receivers (160a-160d) and display device (162) are connected to it (see Fig. 1A and Col. 12 Ins 21-23); Starkey does not

disclose transmitted tire data obtained by imparting identification data of the tires to the detected pressure. However, Meyer discloses *Process For Checking Air Pressure In Vehicle Wheel Tires* that teaches a control unit (21) that generates a long-wave signal that is fed into the long-wave unit located on the tires or in the proximity of the tires. The transmitter device of the long-wave unit will then transmit the long-wave signal where the transmitter device will process the long-wave signal and generate a long-wave identification signal (see Col. 2 Ins 16-65); claim identification data imparting where the receiver means are imparted with identification data necessary to communicate with the monitoring means is met by the long-wave identification signal transmitted from long-wave unit to the control unit where the readings and/or warnings can be visually seen by the driver by means of a display unit (see Col. 2 Ins 16-65 and Col. 3 Ins 1-3).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Meyers into the system of Starkey to prevent interference of the signals from the plurality of tires.

3. Claim 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starkey et al. (US 6,518,877) and Meyer et al. (US 5,880,363) and further in view of Nowicki et al. (US 5,559,484).

Regarding Claim 3 and 4, Starkey discloses a system where the receiver transmits tire data to a multiplexed serial data bus. Meyers discloses a system where the tire data is obtained by imparting identification data of the tires to the detected pressure. Starkey and Meyers do not specifically disclose a system where the

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monitoring means successively outputs the request signals. However Nowicki discloses *Data Logging Tire Monitor With Condition Predictive Capabilities And Integrity Checking* that teaches a system displays information in a successive matter (see Col. 8 Ins 1-21 and Ins 45-46). Nowicki also teaches a system where vehicle information is stored for on demand access later to be displayed on a display unit (98) (see Col 7 Ins 1-45). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Nowicki into the systems of Starkey and Meyers because polling the system for each tire, storing the pressure and temperature data and displaying the data in a successive matter, would allow the user to see the pressure and/or temperature data one by one.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 2 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Brown et al. *Low Pressure Warning System For Pneumatic...* (US 6,581,449)

Stewart et al. *Determination Of Wheel Sensor Position Using...* (US 6,882,270)

Mock et al. *Device For Monitoring The Air Pressure Of...* (US 6,062,072)

Derbyshire et al. *Tire Condition Monitoring System*, (US 6,545,599)

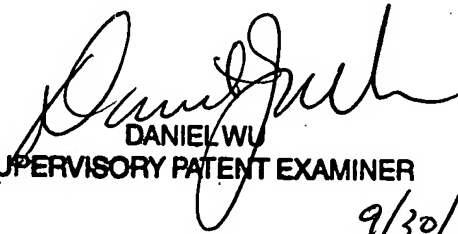
McClelland et al. *Method And Apparatus For A Remote...* (US 2004/0183665)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edny Labbees whose telephone number is (571) 272-2793. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:00 - 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edny Labbees  
9/26/05

  
DANIEL WU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
9/30/05

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